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## CRADLE SONG.

Sweetheart, sleep; Night spreads her pall  
Over the silent town,  
And the far-off tide is musical  
Where the little lines of breakers fall,  
And the weary sun goes down.

Sleep, oh, sleep! for the world reposes;  
Drop your head like the tired roses;  
Dream till the daffodil dawn uncloses  
Over the sleepless sea.

White birds drift to their dizzy nest  
Safe on the headland steep;  
God's great rose is pale in the west,  
My little rose must sink to rest,  
And flower in the land of sleep.

Sleep, for the wind of night is blowing  
Echoes faint of the cattle lowing,  
Drowsy scents of the long day's mowing,  
Over the hills to me.

Now the moon like a silver ship  
Steers through the starry sky;  
And the lighthouse at the harbor's lip,  
Where the clammy seaweeds cling and  
drip,  
Winks with his fierce red eye.

Sleep, oh, sleep! in the magic gloaming  
Glide to the land where the elves are  
roaming;  
Wake when the sun flames over the  
foaming  
Splendid spray of the sea!  
—St. John Lucas in Longman's Magazine.

## A Man, a Girl and a Cable.

BY BISHOP HOWARD.

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Theodore Van Aldine was a lucky dog. At least everybody said so, and what everybody says is true, according to an old saw. But old saws sometimes miss fire in this practical work-a-day world, with its ever-changing conditions. And, truth be told, Theodore Van Aldine did not possess half so keen appreciation of his inherent luck as the great world about him insisted upon. True he was the child of wealth; true, he had never known a care; true, his pockets had always bulged with money and no wish had been ungratified. And right there was the trouble. When one can have one's heart's desire at all times and places, it falls on one and interest in life and affairs dies out. At least it had so proven with Van Aldine. He had always been fed on the daintiest of fare, been clothed in the finest of raiment, driven the fastest horses, led the coltillion at the swellest balls, been favored by the most beautiful maidens, owned the fastest yachts—in short, had had the very cream and pick of the good things of the world.

But he was not happy. In fact he was distinctly discontented and miserable. At 28 he has tasted all there is to life, from the standpoint of the sensualist and the epicure, and had found it after all to be a bore.

He was a clean-cut, well-equipped young fellow, was Van Aldine, and born to an humble estate, where he would have been compelled to work out his own salvation might have carved out a great career—or have been the founder of a great fortune—as had been his paternal grandfather, with the Dutch blood and thrift.

But the fates had willed otherwise, and he had been born to purple and fine linen, with a care only to preserve the family pride and act always the gentleman. And this came so natural that no effort was required and the consequence was that the boy had never been permitted to put forth effort enough to interest him in existence.

And he had tired of it all—the luxury and the conventionalities, and had become moody and discontented—even to the point of seriously considering the losing of his identity and enlisting for service in the Philippines or for service with the Boers in South Africa. In this frame of mind he flung himself onto a cable car to get away



The child of wealth.

from the diletant life he so despised and get a little fresh air and motion.

This was at 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon on the fourth day of October, in the year 1893.

Milly Conan had been born to poverty and service. There was good blood back of her—no question about it. But it was the blood of the patriot and the martyr and not that of the successful trader and money-maker. And her father, who had been always a gentleman at the expense of carry-

ing even life insurance, had died, mourned and regretted by hundreds of friends—and sincerely mourned, too, and but leaving nothing but the reputation of always having been a good fellow and a gentleman—that is, nothing excepting a select assortment of debts and a large quota of regrets. Then the mother, a trifle more practical, as mothers are—but more a lady than a manager, sincerely loving her husband, had died. And the upshot of it all was that Milly had been left, as a very early age, to the tender mercies of a not overly cordial world, with no visible assets except-



The one girl in all the world for him. A very sensitive nature, the inherent instincts of a lady and a healthy appetite—not counting a face of considerable promise from the standpoint of beauty, a figure and a disposition of rare sweetness.

It was fortunate, indeed, and very charitable, on the part of Aunt Martha that Milly's mother's sister, having gone nearly blind and being the relict of old Grigsby, who had departed this life prematurely, but not before he had wisely invested in life insurance to the amount of a few thousand dollars, felt the need and necessity of a companion to steer her about, and selected Milly for that important post, thus combining charity with business. To be sure the post proved exceedingly trying, not only from the standpoint of physical work—as may be imagined when the querulous nature of Mrs. Grigsby is remembered, but also because of the exceeding patience and tact required of the young girl in order to get along at all with the relative who more and more as the months rolled by strengthened her hallucination that she was doing an act of exceeding charity in feeding and clothing her niece in payment for work which she could not have had done for ten times what Milly's keep cost her.

Things being at this pass one day when Milly had reached the age of 18 and had stifled all the aspirations that came to her and settled down to a lifetime of bebumbing service, the latter decided to go across the city to make a call and accompanied by her niece boarded a cable car.

This was at 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon on the fourth day of October in the year 1893.

Smoking his Havana somewhat sulky on the rear seat of the cable car, Theodore Van Aldine's attention was attracted by an old woman, accompanied by a young girl, who boarded the car. The woman was querulous and complaining, the girl patient and apparently cheerful. The woman was nearly blind, and the girl took every pains to see that she was made comfortable, for which she received only complaints. The girl did not show resentment, but looked out upon the sunshine and smiled at radiant nature. And such a smile as it was! It rivaled the sunshine itself. Van Aldine observed her curiously. Here was a girl tied to a cross and selfish old woman and she seemed to be extracting from the fresh air and the sunshine more enjoyment than he, Van

Aldine, millionaire and son of wealth and luxury, could begin to understand. What was it she had that he had not? The question made him smile and served to keep his eyes on the girl's face. The more he looked the more she interested him. The play of color and the panorama of changing expressions not only fascinated him, but gave him some suggestion of the alive intelligence behind the mobile features.

Of a sudden the thought came to him: "My God, where among the daughters of wealth and fashion in our set and who are so assiduously making themselves agreeable, is there one so dainty and so intelligent? And where is one who has the philosophy to carry a load such as this girl is carrying, and do it with a cheerful face?"

The more he ruminated the more interested he became. While he was gazing at her with grave and intent eyes she turned her eyes shyly that way and their eyes met squarely. She dropped hers and a slight flush suffused her pale cheeks. Hardly less soon than she dropped her eyes his sought the floor of the car and a cloud of embarrassment covered him.

Of course it was ridiculous, and he realized it quicker than anybody. He lit a fresh cigar and looked steadily out of the window. But he could not forget and in the space of two minutes he had made up his mind that the pretty little blue-eyed girl carrying her load so bravely was the one girl in all the world for him. The idea stimulated him and gave him a grip on interest in life and affairs he had never had since he could remember.

Well, that's about all there is to the story. He was too wise and experienced, of course, to frighten her by any bold moves. But he took very good care—and expensive—to learn her name, address and limitations. He contrived to meet her and become familiar with all the humiliations of her position.

Then he became indignant and went after the matter in hand with all the force and directness that characterized his paternal grandfather in the upbuilding of his fortune. The result was that within a month Van Aldine and Milly Conan were quietly married much to the disgust of Van's immediate family, but more to the dismay of old Mrs. Grigsby, who never had contemplated the possibility of losing her "slavery."

And the strange part of it is that it is the happiest marriage on record. Milly not only made a good wife—a model wife from the standpoint of domestic economy—but she made the kind of a wife of whom her husband is proud nearly to the point of worship. And, strangest of all known phenomena, from the fourth day of October in the year 1893, at about 4:30 p. m., or shortly thereafter, Van Aldine acquired an interest in life of which he never had had a conception before and which he never lost thereafter—at least up to the present time, and the Van Aldines have now been married for nearly eight years.

### Toilet of a Lady Ant.

A naturalist has been making observations on the toilets of certain ants, and has discovered each insect goes through most elaborate ablutions.

They are not only performed by herself, but by another, who acts for the time as lady's maid. The assistant starts by washing the face of her companion, and then goes over the whole body.

The attitude of the ant that is being washed is one of intense satisfaction. She lies down with all her limbs stretched loosely out; she rolls over on her side, even her back, a perfect picture of ease.

The pleasure the little insect evinces being thus combed and sponged is really enjoyable to the observer.

### She Does Not Flirt.

The one girl in the world who does not understand the art of flirting is she of the Philippine Islands. She is womanly and interesting, extremely graceful, as straight as an arrow and always picturesque, but seldom pretty. A girl becomes a young lady at 12 or 13; by 35 she is probably a grandmother, but even at the advanced age of 50 she is still supple and graceful and picturesque. The type of beauty of all the Pacific islands is the same. The skin is yellow or brown, the hair straight and shiny black, the eyes soft and lustrous, and the teeth white. The girls are modest to the last degree.

### Home Assimilation.

"We," says the explorer, as he endeavors to make the cannibal chieftain understand why his country is to be annexed, "have no desire except to benevolently assimilate you."

"Huh," replies the cannibal chieftain. "So far as we, personally, are concerned, our assimilating processes are in good repair. We have assimilated two missionaries and four sailors within the past year. I guess we will do about all the assimilating that needs to be done on this island."

And the explorer was led around the back way to the pantry.—Baltimore American.



### FARM

#### Dairying and Employment of Labor.

It is not infrequently urged against dairying that it takes a great deal more labor to carry it on than it does any other kind of farming. This is thought in some localities to be a very good argument against it. When the thing is analyzed, we find that the argument is in favor of dairying rather than against it. The good of the whole community is desired by every patriotic citizen. The happiness of the one is bound up in the happiness of all. It is therefore of interest to every man to have all labor constantly and profitably employed. The dairy business gives not only a great deal of employment, but it spreads it over the entire year. Instead of there being work at it for but a few months in the year there is work twelve months. For this reason, butter should never sell at a low price. It is necessary that labor have its reward, and when that is accomplished in the making of butter it means that a considerable sum has been added to the cost of each pound of butter. There is nothing to be gained by the community in reducing the cost of making butter. If a milking machine could be manufactured that would take the place of four-fifths of the milkers it would not help the community at large very much. It would simply throw out of employment a large number of men and women. Individual dairymen would, however, profit by it. It is for the interest of the community to keep every man employed. On the dairy farm the increased amount of work makes it possible to keep the children at home much longer than would be the case with other kinds of farming. This is very true in localities where there are good schools. The boys and girls can well afford to take a high school course at the expense of their parents, if those parents are engaged in dairying. The boys and girls are at home just when the milking should be done and are at school in the middle of the day, when dairy duties are not generally pressing. This is a point that should be more generally considered than it is. Many young women and young men that now think their parents cannot afford to give them a High School education can obtain it by taking care of a few cows night and morning.

#### Soil for Rye.

Manly Miles: Although rye can be successfully grown on a great variety of soils, yet it is of the finest and best quality when produced on a dry, sandy one, where few, if any other grains can be cultivated with equal advantage. By this we do not mean the poorest soil that can be found and which contains but little of the elements of plant food, or that rye can be successfully grown with but slight preparation of the land and the constant cropping of the same fields with it and no manure supplied to return the nutritive properties extracted by successive crops. We have seen a good growth of rye on a sandy soil that would produce scarcely anything else, but the soil was fairly enriched before the seed was sown. Clay is not favorable to its cultivation, especially a heavy undrained clay, and it will never do well in a wet soil of any kind. A clay loam will produce a fine growth of straw, but the grain will not be as good as that produced on a sandy soil, the latter producing a more plump kernel of better quality than the former. A rich loam will produce a larger quantity of grain than sandy soil, but of less value. Rye is a strong feeder and will extract about the last element of soluble plant food from the soil; hence, land that has become so exhausted that it cannot yield rye, is very poor indeed and will require a long period of rest or a large quantity of manure of some kind to cause it to produce anything.—Farmers' Review.

#### Novel Method of Planting Trees.

The Forest Department of South Australia, the most enterprising body in forestry in the Colonies, have adopted the bamboo tube system in planting out young trees, and it has proved very successful. The plant commonly called bamboo (Arundo donax), really a reed, is cut into lengths of about 5 inches, and filled with properly prepared soil. Then a small pinch of seed is placed in each tube, and with judicious watering the seedlings appear in due course. The tubes may vary from one-half inch to 1 inch, but should not be obtained from very old bamboos, as such tubes will not rot when planted out. All guns reared for planting out in South Australia are grown in these tubes, this plan having been found to be the best and most economical in rearing, planting, and carrying over long distances, at the same being safer than any other system, as far as root exposure is concerned. The soil having been well worked, an opening is made with a spade, and the tube is placed there-

in, but care must be taken to plant the tube right to the bottom. If this is not done, when the tree sends out young roots at the bottom of the tube, they would come into empty space and perish, and the death of the young tree would follow. It is recommended to plant the tree as far under the soil as possible, as the tube is more certain to decay when well in the ground, as the damp can act on it better than when it shows on the surface.—Indian Agriculturist.

#### Locality Affects Quality of Apples.

A variety of apples will vary in quality largely according to the locality in which it grows. We have been struck with this fact as we have tested apples grown in different parts of the United States. Just what are the elements entering into the problem it is hard to say. The writer was once on the fair grounds at St. Louis and was looking over the apple exhibit. To the man in charge of the Missouri exhibit he remarked the want of flavor of a certain variety of apples grown in the prairie states. He was answered that the same variety grown in the Ozarks had a fine flavor, and, to prove his assertion, handed the writer an apple from the region named. It was indeed highly flavored. Possibly the composition of the soil has much to do with this. The clay soils that are rich in lime seem to give high flavored fruit. Yet it may be due to other things than the condition and composition of soil. Perhaps on the rich prairie soil the growth of the trees and of the fruit is too rapid to admit of the best of results in the way of flavors. We would like to hear from our readers on this point. Do soils affect flavor of apples?—Farmers' Review.

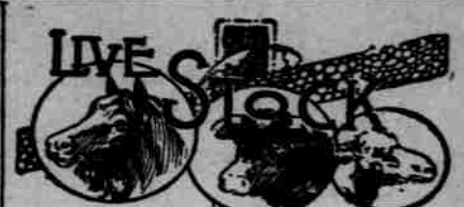
#### Study of Natural Reproduction of Trees.

A line of work recently taken up by the Bureau of Forestry, and for the first time receiving adequate attention in the United States, is the study of the tendency of natural forests to extend over the land devoid of forest growth. This tendency has been noticed in many parts of the country, but has never been studied with a view of controlling it for practical use, or assisting it where desirable. A field party from the bureau is now investigating the reproduction of white pine on pastures and abandoned lands in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, to learn the conditions under which reproduction takes place. The bureau is making this investigation in order to be able to give owners of such lands directions as to the best methods of handling them, with a view of securing a stand of pine by natural seeding. A field party of six men is studying the same problem in Oklahoma, in connection with the hardwood growth which composes the timber belts of that region. It has been found in certain places in the middle west that natural forest belts have extended up streams as much as two miles in the last twenty-five years. Particular attention will be paid to devising methods for extending and improving the forest growth of the Wichita Forest Reserve, where at present the stand of timber consists of only a scattering growth of oak. A similar study is being made on the Prescott Forest Reserve in Arizona, where the stand of timber consists almost entirely of western yellow pine. For several years only a scant reproduction has taken place on this reserve, and one of the objects of the present investigation is to devise means of increasing the stand of young timber.

#### Reclamation of Shifting Sand Dunes.

The protection of valuable property from the encroachment of shifting sand dunes is becoming an important problem in some portions of the country. The regions most severely affected are the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, the lake district of Michigan, and the Columbia river district of Washington and Oregon. Two field parties from the Bureau of Forestry are at work on this problem. One will investigate the worst dune districts along the Atlantic coast, and will study carefully the grasses, shrubs, and trees that can be used either for temporary or permanent retention of the sand dunes, and will also inquire into other methods of holding the active dunes, or changing their direction. Very successful work in holding the sand by grass and shrub planting has already been done by the state of Massachusetts on a portion of Cape Cod known as the "Province Lands." The problem along the Columbia river is somewhat different from that along the Atlantic coast, owing to the different origin and character of the sand. It is expected, however, that the control of the sand there, like that of the coast sand, can be effected by means of grass or shrub planting, and afterwards by forestation. Primarily the object of controlling the sand is to protect valuable property which is endangered by the dunes.

It is estimated by experts that it costs about \$30 per acre to raise sugar beets. This is on account of the large amount of handwork that must be given to grow beets of proper size and shape.



### LIVE STOCK

#### Mature Ewes and Rams for Breeders.

An experiment station bulletin says: As a rule it is injurious to breed immature stock; and the best returns are not to be expected from weak or very old animals. Both observation and experience have convinced me that the use of a ram lamb, for example, as sire in a flock, results in lambs lacking in character and of uncertain quality, while the use of a matured ram would have given satisfactory returns. There is a general tendency, in the anxiety to secure results from breeding herds, to breed the females at too early an age, which too often injures the vitality and growth, and promotes reduced size and quality. Animals should not be required to take on themselves the burdens of motherhood until they have acquired fair maturity and development. The man who breeds his ewes to first lamb as long yearlings, to have his beef cows first drop calves at thirty months old, or his dairy cows at twenty-four or twenty-six months, or his sows to first farrow at twelve or fourteen months of age, is on safer ground in building up his herd than the man who will not wait for this maturity. In a measure, there is also objection in using very old or weak animals for breeding. Strength of character from such cannot be expected to equal that from animals in the prime of age and condition.

#### A Dangerous Fraud.

Press Bulletin 87, of the Oklahoma station, says: While traveling in Woodward county investigating the loco disease of cattle the veterinarian of the Oklahoma Experiment Station procured from a stockman a sample of a sure cure for black leg in cattle which he had obtained from a traveling "veterinarian." The material was analyzed and found to be corrosive sublimate, a very poisonous chemical, which is dangerous to have around at any time and doubly so when in the guise of a mysterious cure for a disease. The stockman in this case knew that the only treatment for black leg was preventive vaccination with vaccine properly prepared and procured from reliable sources. It is of course impossible to estimate the damage caused by irresponsible persons of which this "veterinarian" is a type. The experiment station at Stillwater makes every effort to acquaint Oklahoma farmers with new things that may be of benefit to them and an inquiry in doubtful cases will always bring a prompt reply giving the facts in so far as the station can determine them. The mysterious is always to be distrusted.

#### Selecting Sheep for a Flock.

W. J. Boynton of the Minnesota Stock Breeders' Association says: Anyone that starts a pure bred flock should be fond of sheep and ambitious. He should take pride enough in the flock to be determined that it should not only be kept up to as high a standard as when it comes into his hands but that it should constantly improve. All successful breeders must progress. Start with the breed that you like best, if it is suitable for your location and there is demand enough for it to make it a paying investment as well as a pleasant business. In selecting the ewes for the foundation flock get as uniform a lot as possible, as this will be a great help to you. It is hard to breed anything uniform from an uneven lot. Size is important, but not so much as the quality. The selection of the ram is the most important. He is one-half if not three-fourths of the flock. Don't be afraid to invest your money in a good ram. You cannot keep your flock up if you do not use good sires. A flock of poor quality ewes can be greatly improved by using good sires, but a poor ram will run down the quality of the best flock of ewes. A highly fitted and finished ram should be avoided. He is at his best and will never look as well again. Pay for the quality but not the fitting.

#### Harrowing Wet Ground.

Ground should not be harrowed when it is too wet. Only the skillful farmer can tell when it is too wet. One farmer follows the practice of taking a handful of soil and working it into a ball. If the ball holds together he considers the soil too wet to be worked. The harrowing should be done when there is sufficient moisture in it to keep it from being very hard on the surface but should also be dry enough so that when harrowed the particles of soil will fall away from each other. The time during which ground is just right for harrowing is of short duration. This is especially true of clayey land. On sandy soil there is little trouble in harrowing at any time, especially if the soil be very sandy.

Nothing can constitute good breeding that has not good nature for its foundation.—Bulwer.